

DAILY PT POINTERS

13th March , 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB – Defence



Prime Minister's Office



PM witnesses 'Bharat Shakti' - a Tri-Services Firing and Manoeuvre Exercise in Pokhran, Rajasthan

"Today, once again, Pokhran is witnessing the triveni of India's Aatmnirbharta, self-confidence and its glory"

"The idea of Viksit Bharat is unimaginable without Aatmanirbhar Bharat"

"Aatmanirbharta for India's defence needs is the guarantee of self-confidence in the armed forces"

"Viksit Rajasthan will give strength to Viksit Sena"

Posted On: 12 MAR 2024 3:40PM by PIB Delhi



News

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the Pokhran firing range in Rajasthan to witness the **Bharat Shakti** exercise.

Bharat Shakti Exercise

- It demonstrated the prowess of indigenously manufactured defence equipment of the three services.
- LCA Tejas, ALH Mk-IV, LCH Prachand, mobile anti-drone system, BMP-II and its variants, NAMICA (Nag Missile Carrier), T90 tanks, Dhanush, K9 Vajra, and Pinaka rockets were among the platforms showcased at Pokhran, about 100 km from Jaisalmer city.
- Exercise Bharat Shakti simulated realistic, synergised, multi-domain operations displaying integrated operational capabilities of the Indian armed forces to counter threats across land, air, sea, cyber, and space domains.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

PIB – Polity and Governance

Ministry of Women and Child Development



National Commission for Protection of Child Rights celebrates its 19th Foundation Day

Posted On: 12 MAR 2024 7:53PM by PIB Delhi



News

- The **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** celebrated its 19th Foundation Day (12th March, 2024).

About NCPCR

- It was established in March 2007 under the **Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005**.
- It is a **statutory body** under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Women & Child Development**.
- This commission has a chairperson and six members of which at least two should be women.
- **Mandate:** It ensures that all Laws, Policies, Programmes, and Administrative Mechanisms align with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**.
- A child is defined as a person falling in the age group of **0 to 18 years**.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu – Defence



India World Opinion Sports e-Paper

GIFT A

HOME / NEWS / INDIA

India world's top arms importer between 2019-23: SIPRI

While European arms imports have shot up, France has emerged world's second largest arms exporter displacing Russia



News

- India was the world's top arms importer for the period 2019-23 with imports having gone up by 4.7% compared to the period 2014-18, according to the Swedish think tank, [Stockholm International Peace Research Institute \(SIPRI\)](#).
- Russia remained India's main arms supplier, accounting for 36% of its arms imports.

Global Scenario

- **Nine** of the 10 biggest arms importers in 2019–23, including the top 3 of India, Saudi Arabia and Qatar, were in Asia and Oceania or the Middle East.
- **Ukraine** became the **fourth biggest** arms importer globally.
- Arms exports of the **world's largest supplier, U.S.** grew by 17% between 2014–18 and 2019–23.
- **France** emerged as the world's second largest arms supplier as its exports grew by 47%.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: Science and Technology

What is nuclear waste and what are the challenges of handling it? | Explained



News

- Recently, India loaded the core of its [prototype fast breeder reactor](#) (PFBR) vessel, bringing it to the cusp of stage II of its three-stage nuclear programme.
- The large-scale use of nuclear power is accompanied by a difficult problem: waste management.

What is nuclear waste?

- Nuclear waste is made of radioactive atoms left over after large atoms split.
- When the uranium-235 (U-235) nucleus absorbs a neutron, it can fission to barium-144, krypton-89, and three neutrons.
- If the 'debris' (barium-144 and krypton-89) constitute elements that can't undergo fission, they become nuclear waste.

Impact

- Nuclear waste is highly radioactive and needs to be stored in facilities reinforced to prevent leakage into and/or contamination of the local environment.

IE– Culture

News / Explained / Explained Culture / GI tag for Majuli masks of Assam: History, cultural significance of the centuries-old art form

GI tag for Majuli masks of Assam: History, cultural significance of the centuries-old art form

The masks have been made in Assam's sattras, or monasteries, since the 16th century. Now, efforts are on to give them wider exposure and a commercial boost.

News

- **Majuli masks** of Assam got the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

What are Majuli masks?

- The handmade masks are traditionally used to depict characters in **bhaonas**, or theatrical performances with devotional messages under the **neo-Vaishnavite tradition**, introduced by the 15th-16th century reformer **saint Srimanta Sankardeva**.
- The masks can depict gods, goddesses, demons, animals and birds — Ravana, Garuda, Narasimha, Hanuman, Varaha Surpanakha all feature among the masks.
- The masks are made of **bamboo, clay, dung, cloth, cotton, wood** etc.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

IE– Culture

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GI tag for Majuli masks of Assam: History, cultural significance of the centuries-old art form



What is the Majuli manuscript painting, which also received the GI tag?

- It is a form of painting — also originating in the 16th century — done on sanchi pat, or manuscripts made of the bark of the sanchi or agar tree, using homemade ink.
- This art was patronised by the **Ahom kings**.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

IE: History and Culture

Simplicity and modernisation: What the redeveloped Sabarmati Ashram seeks to achieve



News

- Prime Minister Modi laid the foundation for the redevelopment of Mahatma Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad.
- Mahatma Gandhi set up **five settlements** during his lifetime — **two** in **South Africa** (Phoenix Settlement in Natal, and Tolstoy Farm outside Johannesburg), where he lived from 1893 to 1914, and **three in India**, where he arrived in 1915.

Sabarmati Ashram

- In **1917**, Gandhi founded the ashram at Sabarmati on the western bank of the **Sabarmati River**.
- Apart from the Dandi March that Gandhi began from here on March 12, 1930, he also launched the **Champaran Satyagraha (1917)**, the **Ahmedabad mills strike** and **Kheda Satyagraha (1918)**, the **Khadi movement (1918)**, the **Rowlatt Act** and **Khilafat Movements (1919)**, and the **Non-Cooperation movement (1920)** while living in Sabarmati.